

## The Daily Freeman.

## EVENING EDITION.

The Freeman.  
With his hand upon his charter,  
And his foot upon the sod,  
He will stand—O die a martyr  
For his Freedom and his God.

C. W. WILLARD, Editor.

J. W. WHELOCK, Printer.

MONTPELIER, VT.

TUESDAY, DEC. 24, 1861.

HAVING CHOSEN OUR CAUSE WITHOUT GUILE  
AND WITH PURE MOTIVES, LET US REVEAL OUR  
TRUST IN GOD AND GO FORWARD WITHOUT FEAR  
AND WITH MANLY HEARTS.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

## A DAILY FREEMAN

Will be published at this office until further notice. Two editions will be issued, one to be ready for the mail West, and the stages that leave Montpelier in the afternoon, the other in the morning in season for the morning mails. Each edition will contain the latest telegraphic news to the time of going to press.

## The Terms will be,

\$4.00 per year, or \$1.00 for three months, to mail subscribers and those taking the paper from the office.

\$5.00 per year, or \$1.25 for three months, to village subscribers—paper delivered at their houses or places of business.

Advertisements inserted on reasonable terms. Orders are solicited. C. W. WILLARD.

## The Grievs of England.

The Trent affair is apparently a matter of such trifling consequence, even in the most exaggerated English version of it, that it may be fairly asserted that if a war between England and this country grows out of it it will be because England is determined to go to war with us on some pretext, and finds this one as convenient and opportune as any that she has any reason to expect. The tone of much of the press of that country, notwithstanding its constant professions of neutrality, has been from the outset unmistakably in the interest of secession. It would be doing that portion of the press, and the British people whose opinions it represents, however, a great injustice, to ascribe its sympathy with Jeff. Davis to any commiseration for the condition of an oppressed people, or to any ignorance of the real wickedness and great wrong of the rebellion. John Bull, though in many respects almost criminally ignorant of this country, yet knows enough of us, of our institutions, and of our form of Government, to understand the real issue between the North and the South, and to know that justice, and civilization, and Republican liberty are fighting under the Stars and Stripes, while injustice, wrong, barbarism and a love of a different form of Government from that our Fathers made, are upholding the banners of secession. But if he knew only this, we should hardly expect him to interfere to help either side, as he is undoubtedly a most excellently indifferent spectator of any conflict between right and wrong that has no effect upon the business or the people of England.

But the griefs of England are some of them older than the rebellion, and many of them, in some sense, irrespective of it. Great Britain would like the world for a market, and looks with the gravest suspicion, and with a jealousy almost warlike, at any abridgment of this market. This country has for many years furnished a most excellent place of sale for her immense manufactures. The South has never been a manufacturing people, but has always bought largely, though generally through the Northern cities, of English stuff. The North has also, under the low tariffs of many years, imported and consumed hundreds of millions of dollars annually of the products of the cheap labor of Great Britain. The revolution of 1857 stopped some of this, as it curtailed and dried up our own means to pay,—and subsequently the Morrill tariff has checked importations to so great an extent that for the last year the balance of trade has been in our favor, and specie has been continually flowing in upon us from Europe by the arrival of every steamer. The monied interests of England grumbled seriously at this, complaining of it as though it was a matter in which they had a right to dictate a policy to our Government. Their sorrow, however, became very much intensified when to our tariff was added a blockade of the Southern ports, and English ships were prevented from smuggling their wares into Jeff. Davis, or smuggling out the cotton which they deemed necessary to keep the mills of Manchester running on full time.

It has also been very plainly seen by the monied interests of England that, if the North should come to rule this Republic, if Northern ideas and Northern principles of self-dependence should predominate in the councils of the Nation, if Northern energy, and Northern enterprise, and Northern skill should have dominion from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the Lakes to the Gulf, England would be compelled in a short time to bid good-bye to America as her market, and would be forced to look elsewhere for an outlet for the surplus produc-

tions of the swarming population of her manufacturing towns; and the vision has not been at all a pleasant one to her.

The marvelous growth of this country, in all its industrial interests in the past thirty years, its rapid advancement in literature, science and art, its immense increase of population, made up in a considerable part of those abandoning the worn out and decaying kingdoms of the Old World, and seeking in the boundless territory on this Continent "fresh fields and pastures new," the almost startling development of its hidden wealth, its vast resources, and its unlimited capacities have been watched by English eyes with jealousy, if not with envy, in the apprehension that the American representative of the Anglo-Saxon race was destined soon to outstrip its rivals in the race of Empire, and stand first among the nations of the earth.

These and other similar griefs have been continually chafing the pride, and disturbing the equanimity, and alarming the apprehension of England for a generation; and before them all, have been the two sore and tender places caused by the two wars in which she has crossed swords with this country and fought till she was satisfied and asked for peace.

With all this history in view it is impossible not to see that there is something behind this Trent affair that has led to all the bluster and warlike preparation of England. That may afford the pretext for the quarrel, but the arm that will strike the blows will be nerved by an entirely different consideration. Cotton is to be obtained. This Government is to be broken in two. American Commerce is to be crippled. Slavery, which produces only the raw material, is to be strengthened and established. An agreement is to be wrenched from the Government, if possible, that we will make no more tariffs to shut out English stuffs from our markets. England is to be the ally of the South, and take her part in any future quarrel with the North. These and other kindred pleasant visions are no doubt floating through the imagination of John Bull, which, through the agency of his iron-clad ships, his monster Navy, his immense war establishment and his new slave-driving allies, he hopes to soon see reduced to accomplished facts.

We hope most sincerely that a war with England may be avoided, for the very simple reason that we regard war as a calamity which can but inflict present injury upon the country; and especially now, a war with any foreign power would most sensibly embarrass the Government and the people in putting down rebellion. But if England by her arrogant, insolent and menacing manner of asking redress for a trivial grievance shall force our people, consulting our national honor and dignity, to accept her open and armed hostility, then we believe we express the opinion of every American from the Atlantic to the Pacific, who loves his country and its institutions, when we say that neither England nor Slavery shall make anything by the alliance, but both of them, so far as their power on this continent is concerned, shall be strangled with the same rope and consigned to the same grave, and from Hudson's Bay to the Gulf of Mexico, the Star Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave over the land of the free and the home of the brave.

ENGLISH EXCITEMENT AND AMERICAN INDIFFERENCE.—One would judge, from the specimens of English papers that come to hand, that not only the policy of England respecting America, but all the movements of that Government in the negotiations respecting the Trent affair, and in preparing for a possible state of hostilities between the two countries, were at once communicated to the press, and given immediately the widest publicity. Every soldier that shoulders his knapsack, every vessel that is chartered, every gun that is scoured, every decision of the British Cabinet, every suggestion of the Earl Derby, every opinion of the law officers of the crown, in short, the whole detail of preparation and opinion is at once published to the four quarters of the kingdom. Although much of this is like the newspaper gossip in this country, yet much of it has an appearance of being authoritative; and it all gives to England a very belligerent, threatening and insolent aspect towards this country.

It is barely possible, however, that some of this parade of preparation is got up simply for effect in this country. The movement of troops to Canada is not of itself very alarming, inasmuch as they must be taken there soon, or else wait till Spring. We confess, however, that the whole conduct of England looks thus far like an attempt to frighten us into an acquiescence with her demands; or if not this, it is very plain that if blows must follow upon negotiation, England means to make sure to strike the first one. The silence and inaction of our Government are in such singular contrast to this as to be almost alarming. It seems almost a criminal indifference, when the British Government is making such vigorous preparations for war with us, that we should be doing simply nothing. However, we suppose the President and Cabinet at Washington know much more of the dispositions of the blustering nation that is now bawling us than the people do. At any rate we hope the end will justify their wisdom.

Money and time have both their value. He who makes bad use of the one will never make good use of the other.

## That Southern Plain.

BY FRANCES L. KEELER.

I'm gazing, watching, eager now,  
And my eyes in the twilight strain,  
To catch a glimpse of these I love—  
Away on that Southern plain.

My soul sighs deep, and my weary heart  
Is filled with care and pain,  
For that consourse vast now gathered there—  
Away on that Southern plain.

Oh! hearts will sigh, and eyes shall watch,  
But ah! they will watch in vain;  
For the ones we love will ne'er return  
From the war on that Southern plain.

Oh! long will it take the blood to dry,  
So there will be left no stain,  
Where the brave young heroes nobly die—  
Away on that Southern plain.

And long shall we mourn for dear ones gone,  
That are numbered with the slain;  
But God will avenge the blood that's spilt  
Away on that Southern plain.

But, Father, there are some, I know,  
That Thou wilt let remain,  
To come, when the battle-songs are o'er,  
From that far-off Southern plain.

But should the ones we hold most dear  
Ne'er come to us again,—  
Should they wrap the banner round them there,  
And fall on that Southern plain,—

We'll meet them all in heaven at last,  
Where they will ever reign;  
For the captain—Death—will march them there,  
And camp on that starry plain.  
Five Corners, N. Y., Dec., 1861.

## How we can soon have a Powerful Navy.

Donald McKay, an eminent ship-builder, in a communication to the *Commercial Bulletin*, makes the following timely suggestions in respect to the way in which our Navy can be very soon put into a respectable if not formidable position. He says:—

"It would be easy for us to build, in one year, a fleet of 500 to 600 men-of-war ships, from a gunboat up to the largest class of iron-clad frigates. It is a well known fact that we built, in one year, the astonishing number of 2034 vessels and steamers, of all classes, measuring together 583,450 tons. A large number of these vessels were as large as the biggest class of frigates hitherto constructed. What we have done once we may do again, and working at the same rate, we would be able alone in our merchant yards to turn out, in one year, 533 ships of 1000 tons each. In our six Navy Yards, where the choicest materials are stocked for building a fleet of 100 ships, 60 more men-of-war ships might be built in one year, making a total of 643 men-of-war ships of all classes, varying in their armament from 3 to 60 guns. More than a hundred of our greatest engineering firms would complete all the machinery necessary to be put in these ships in less than a year. Our capabilities and facilities of building ships have not in the least suffered by the loss of the seceded States. They never were shipbuilding States, and as late as 1860 they only built (combined) one full-rigged ship, while the Northern States built 110 ships of the same description. That is to say, in plain words, all the seceded States combined did not build even 'one per cent' of the sea-going ships built in the United States.

It is true on a very urgent occasion, in a great emergency, our country could largely increase her navy in a very few months, with very powerful descriptions of vessels, if they would proceed as follows:—  
Cut down all our line-of-battle ships one or two decks, case them with five inch iron plates, put a battery of thirty or forty guns of the heaviest calibre on board of them, and moor them across the entrance of our harbors. Plate our heavy frigates with shell-proof iron plates, and to make up for the additional weight put into them, do away with their armament on the upper deck.

Transform one hundred of our best sea-going merchant steamers into so many frigates, sloops, dispatch and gunboats of a speed superior to any men-of-war ships yet produced.

Among our large clipper ships and traders, more than five hundred may be found that are capable to be transformed into so many efficient sailing sloops and frigates. Their length varies from 220 to 300 feet, their breadth from 40 to 52 feet, and whenever they are cut down one deck, or their decks are lowered, will be found capable of carrying an armament varying from twenty to fifty heavy guns, according to their respective capacities. Twenty or thirty of our best and largest clipper ships might very well be transformed into powerful screw frigates—as for instance the Great Republic, which exceeds in her dimensions the largest English fifty-gun frigates, while her shape for speed is incomparably superior.

The scantling of all these ships is well known to be larger than that of the best and strongest men-of-war ships in our navy.

Among the barques and brigs there are 400 to 500 capable of receiving an armament of from 8 to 20 guns, and more than a thousand of our large schooners that have a breadth of 27 to 30 feet and over, and a form never surpassed for speed, can in a few weeks be transformed into men-of-war schooners, armed with one pivot gun of the heaviest description in the middle, and two to four 32 pounders at the ends. These vessels have a very large stability, and the scantling of their timbers, is by 20 per cent. heavier than that of the common men-of-war schooners.

This fleet of about 2000 vessels of war can be turned out in less time than four or six months, and it would be sufficient to protect our coast and meet the first storm.

Time would be so gained to build a fleet fit to represent our great nation, and to make our flag once more respected in all seas of the globe."

IMPROBABLE.—The *Philadelphia Bulletin* of the 23d has a despatch from Washington, upon which authority does not appear, stating that Lord Lyons will not present his despatches in regard to the Trent affair, until Admiral Milne of the British West India Squadron, shall act upon his instructions and proceed to Boston harbor. Doubtless this is only one of the guesses of a Newspaper correspondent to account for what seems otherwise an inexplicable delay in the negotiations, and has no other foundation than the report that instructions had been sent

to the Admiral. We hope, however, to be "let up" from this disagreeable suspense before a great while, and to know the worst and be getting ready for it.

## Persecution of Christians in Madagascar.

IDA PFEIFFER'S "Last Travels," just published by Messrs. Harper & Brothers, will be received with great interest. A brief sketch of her life precedes the diary, from which we learn that this remarkable woman exhibited decidedly masculine traits in early life, which were encouraged by the fact that, till she was nine years old, she was the only girl in a party of six children. We also learn that her travels extended over nearly 150,000 miles of sea and 20,000 miles of land. We are sorry that the book is marred by very unkind and unhandsome statements in regard to the Protestant missionaries of Madagascar. She herself was brought up a Roman Catholic; nevertheless, her testimony as to the persecution of the Christian converts by Queen Ranavola, and their admirable and heroic behavior, is valuable and interesting. We quote from her diary beginning with the substance of Queen Ranavola's proclamation of July 6, 1859:—

"The Queen had long suspected that there were many Christians among her people. Within the last few days she had become certain of the fact, and had heard with horror that several thousands of this sect dwelt in and around Tananariva. Every one knew how much she hated and detested this sect, and how strictly she had forbidden the practice of their religion. As her commands were so little regarded she should use every effort to discover the guilty, and should punish them with the greatest severity. The duration of the kabar was fixed for fifteen days, and it was announced to the people, in conclusion, that those who gave themselves up during that period should have their lives spared, but that all who were denounced by others might be prepared to die a terrible death.

"Who would believe that the traitor, the denouncer of the Christians, was a Christian himself, and half a priest into the bargain, whom the English missionaries had honored with the title 'Reverendissimus'! The name of this miserable creature is Ratsimandisa. He belongs to the race of the Hovas, and is a native of Tananariva, and has had a semi-European education, which unfortunately had no effect in ennobling his mind or his heart. In order to win the favor of the Queen, and hoping to obtain a great reward, he declared that he only pretended to adopt the Christian religion with the view of getting a knowledge of all the Christians, and thus giving the Queen an opportunity of annihilating them at one blow. He had really made out a complete register of the names of Christians residing in Tananariva. Fortunately, it did not occur to him to request an audience of the Queen, and to give this register into her own hands. He gave it to one of the ministers who belonged to Prince Rakoto's party and was one of the Prince's most faithful followers. This man would not deliver a document of such importance to the Queen without first telling the Prince of the circumstance. No sooner had the latter read the document than he tore it in pieces and announced that any one who dared to make out a second list, or even to accept one with the intention of laying it before the government, should be immediately put to death. This action certainly saved the lives of some thousands of Christians; they gained time and had an opportunity of escaping, of which the majority have availed themselves. But in the wild, inhospitable forests, where alone they can hide themselves, without a roof or shelter them, without food to eat, how many of these poor people must fall victims to hunger and misery!

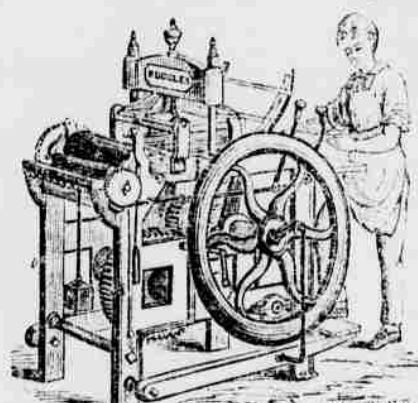
"To increase their misfortune an English missionary, Mr. Lebrun, had come from the Mauritius to Tamatave for a few days, shortly before Ratsimandisa's treason, and had written letters from Tamatave to several Christians in Tananariva, exhorting them to be firm in their faith, and seeking to strengthen their courage with the assurance that the day of persecution would not last much longer, and that better times would soon come for them. The poor among them also received promises of aid, and some money was, it is said, distributed among them. Unhappily, a few of these letters fell into the hands of the government and others were found during the search instituted in the houses of those suspected of Christianity; and as the names of several Christians were mentioned in these letters, to whom the missionary sent messages or greeting through the recipients, these at least could be seized. The unhappy people were tortured in all kinds of ways, like the Protestants of Spain in the days of the Inquisition to induce them to give up the names of the Christians they knew, and the government succeeded in capturing a tolerable number in the first few days.

"July 6th. More than two hundred Christians are said to have been either denounced or discovered in the few days that have elapsed since the kabar was announced. They are being sought for everywhere. Every house is entered—every one suspected of Christianity, be it man, woman or child, is seized by the soldiers and dragged to one of the prisons.

"July 8th. Our slaves tell us that more than eight hundred soldiers are employed in searching for Christians; they not only search the whole town, but scour the country within a circuit of between twenty and thirty miles;

but, happily, it is said they do not take many prisoners. All flee to the mountains and forests, and in such numbers that small detachments of soldiers, who pursue the fugitives and attempt to capture them, are put to flight.

"July 9th. To day we received fresh news of the persecution against the Christians.—The Queen has heard that till now very few prisoners, comparatively, have been brought in; she is stated to be extremely enraged at this, and to have exclaimed in great anger that the bowels of the earth must be searched and the rivers and lakes dragged with nets, so that not one of the traitors may escape his just punishment. These inflated expressions and the new and strict orders she has issued to the officers and soldiers charged with the duty of pursuing the Christians have, however, I am thankful to say, had no great result. Her Majesty will doubtless be enraged when she hears that the inhabitants of whole villages have succeeded in escaping from her vengeance by flight. Thus it happened, a few days ago, in the village of Ambobitra-Biby, nine miles from Tananariva, that when the soldiers arrived they found nothing but the empty huts."

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## Mails in Montpelier.

SOUTHERN and EASTERN mail closes at 7.45 a.m. arrives at 5.15 p.m.

NORTHERN and WESTERN closes at 8.45 a.m. arrives at 9.15 a.m.

NIGHT Mail for Boston and New York closes at 9 p.m. arrives at 6 o'clock, P. M.

All matter for these mails must be in the office before the time of closing, to go the same day.

BARTON mail arrives daily at 8.30 a.m.; departs every day on arrival of Southern.

BRADFORD mail arrives daily at 4.00 p.m.; departs daily at 5.00 a.m.

DANVILLE arrives Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 8.12 o'clock, a.m.; departs Monday, Wednesday and Fridays at 6 o'clock p.m.

BARTON arrives Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 3.20 p.m.; departs Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 9.45 a.m.

FEBERSACK, by Worcester and Kimball, arrives Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays at 5.00 p.m.; departs every 2 Barton.

CHATEAU arrives Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 1.30 p.m.; departs every 2 Barton.

CALAIS mail arrives Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 1.00 p.m.; leaves alternate days on arrival of Western.

RECEIVED FROM TWO TO SIX TIMES A WEEK.

OFFICE HOURS FROM 7.00 A. M. TO 8.00 P. M.

JAMES C. FRENCH, Proprietor.

Montpelier, May 1, 1861

"How great a matter a little fire kindleth." We would have thought a few years since that the little unheeded spark of life was to play so conspicuous a part in the great drama of life, but such it is, and to the actors of the drama are looking for a continuance of the vitality that will enable him to act.

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Manual furnished free on application. d. k. n. v.

## Co-partnership Dissolved.

THE partnership heretofore existing between J. H. Loring and S. Sawyer, both of Northfield, under the name and style of Howe & Sawyer, is this day dissolved.

Northfield, Dec. 7, 1861. d. k. n. v. W. W. WILDER.

## Notice.

THE undersigned would give notice that the said business will be continued and conducted by J. H. Loring as agent, at the old stand at Northfield.

Northfield, Dec. 7, 1861. d. k. n. v. W. W. WILDER.

## A. W. WILDER

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those who pay down. A. W. WILDER.

Montpelier, Dec. 20, 1860: 12991